

The Alate Females of the Ant-aphis *Forda*. (*With plate.*)

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Forda formicaria is the commonest aphid found with ants, and it is remarkable that the winged form should have escaped notice for so long. It is not unusual to find the nymphs, but it was not until this year that I succeeded in breeding the alate females. Nymphs of *F. formicaria* were taken at Porlock, Somerset, on May 13th, 1916, and one hatched on May 27th. Almost immediately after emergence, the aphid began to display great activity, greater than I have ever seen in any other aphid, running with rapidity up and down a grass stem, evidently trying to escape. Nymphs of *F. viridana* were taken in the same locality on May 30th, and two alate emerged on June 15th. These displayed similar activity to that of *F. formicaria*.

It seems clear that these forms escape from the nest directly they hatch, and this accounts for their not having been taken before.

It would be extremely interesting to know their subsequent terrestrial existence.

Both these species were taken on grass roots, with apteræ and larvæ, in nests of *Lasius niger* var. *alieno-niger*.

The nymphs are very like the apterous ♀♀, with the exception of wing-covers. The eyes in the nymph are larger and more developed, and the whole body almost destitute of hairs.

Mr. F. V. Theobald very kindly verified the determination of these two forms.

I give the descriptions below. The antennæ are remarkable for the number of large sensoria on the 3rd segments.

Forda formicaria, Heyden. (Pl. vi., fig. 1. head and antenna.)
Alate viviparous ♀ (hitherto undescribed)

L. 2.6 mm. Abdomen dull green, cauda and rims of apical segments black, the following segments with broad transverse dark bars diminishing in length and breadth, and finally disappearing before the thorax is reached; head, thorax, antennæ and legs black; eyes dull red.

The rostrum is about half as long as the body, the last segment long and narrow.

Antennæ 5-jointed, the 1st segment as broad as or broader than long; the 2nd somewhat narrower and longer, swelling slightly at apex; the 3rd by far the longest, and almost completely covered on its underside with large oval and round sensoria, more than 50 on the right, and rather less than 50 on the left antenna; 4th segment a little more than one-third as long as the 3rd, with one extremely large irregular sensorium at its apex, and a row of four of normal size behind it; the 5th shorter than the 4th, with a short nail, under which is the usual large sensorium and a group of three small ones. The whole antenna is less than half the length of the body.

Head short and broad, vertex with a deeply impressed line, and convex on each side of the line.

Eyes large, with a projecting lower portion; one ocellus above each compound eye, and a third in centre of vertex.

Body flatter than in the apterous form, and legs longer.

Cornicles mere pores, hardly visible. Cauda short and rounded.

The wings are faintly imbricated all over, except near the insertion of the cubitus, and the stigma is more coarsely and densely so, and smoky, as are the nervures. The 1st and 2nd oblique nervures rise from the same point in the cubitus, and the cubital nervure is single, and rises some distance from the cubitus. The lower wing has two oblique nervures.

The antennæ, legs, and vertex have short fine hairs, and the cauda longer ones.

Forda viridana, Buckton. (Pl. vi, fig. 2, head and antenna, fig. 3, wing.) Alate viviparous ♀ (hitherto undescribed).